

*What is claimed is:*

- 1           1. A method for managing telephone services provided through a HFC network  
2 platform having at least a video display device and a telephone device, the method comprising  
3 the steps of:
  - 4           (a)     detecting an off-hook state of a telephone device at a network element located at  
5                   or substantially near a subscriber's residence;
  - 6           (b)     receiving at said network element a set of digits from the telephone device;
  - 7           (c)     determining a service requested by the subscriber based on the received set of  
8                   digits; and
  - 9           (d)     controlling the display on the video display device in association with the  
10                  information associated with the requested service.
- 1           2. The method described in claim 1 further comprising the step of:  
2           (e)     muting the audio of the video display device during an off-hook state.
- 1           3. The method described in claim 1 wherein the requested service is a telephone call.
- 1           4. The method described in claim 1 wherein the requested service is a retrieval of call  
2 logs.
- 1           5. The method described in claim 1 wherein the requested service is a directory service.
- 1           6. The method described in claim 1 wherein the information displayed on the video  
2 display device is a telephone listing.
- 1           7. The method described in claim 1 wherein the information displayed on the video  
2 display device is a call progress status.
- 1           8. The method described in claim 1 wherein the information displayed on the video  
2 display device is a call state.

1        9. The method described in claim 1 wherein the information displayed on the video  
2 display device is a list of callers.

1        10. The method of claim 1 wherein the network element is a communication gateway.

1        11. The method of claim 1 wherein the network element is a set-top box.

1        12. A method for synchronizing the delivery of video and telephone services through an  
2 HFC platform having a video display device and a telephone device, the method comprising  
3 the steps of:

4            (a)    receiving a control signal indicating an incoming telephone call to a subscriber  
5                    at a network element located substantially near the subscriber's residence and at  
6                    a time when a video program is being delivered to said subscriber's residence  
7                    through the video display device; and

8            (b)    selectively interrupting the delivery of the video program to the video display  
9                    device when the telephone call is answered.

10        13. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of:

1            (c)    resuming the delivery of the video program when the telephone call ends.

1        14. The method of claim 12 wherein the interruption of step (b) is performed by  
2 recording the video program into a video recording device.

1        15. The method of claim 14 wherein the video recording device stores the video program  
2 in a segmented buffer.

1        16. The method of claim 12 wherein the interruption of step (b) is performed by pausing  
2 the video program.

1        17. A method for synchronizing the delivery of video and telephone services through an  
2 HFC telephony service platform having a video display device and a telephone device, the  
3 method comprising the steps of:

- 4 (a) receiving a control signal indicating an incoming telephone call to a subscriber  
5 at a network element located at or substantially near the subscriber's residence  
6 and at a time when a video program is being delivered to said subscriber's  
7 residence through the video display device; and  
8 (b) displaying on the video display device a menu option providing an opportunity  
9 for the subscriber to synchronize the simultaneous reception of the video  
10 program and the telephone call.

1 18. The method of claim 17 wherein the synchronization of step (b) is performed by  
2 recording the video program into a video recording device while the telephone call is in  
3 progress.

1 19. The method of claim 18 wherein the video recording device stores the video program  
2 into a segmented buffer.

1 20. The method of claim 17 wherein the synchronization of step (b) is performed by  
2 pausing the video program when the telephone call is answered.

1 21. The method of claim 17 wherein the synchronization of step (b) is performed by  
2 muting the audio of the video program when the telephone call is answered.

1 22. A system for managing video and telephone services through an HFC platform  
2 having a telephone device and video display device, the system comprising service manager  
3 coupled to said telephone device and said video display device whereby the service manager  
4 (i) detects an off-hook state of the telephone device;  
5 (ii) receives digits from the telephone device;  
6 (iii) determines the requested service by a subscriber based on said digits;  
7 and  
8 (iv) controls the display on the video display device of information  
9 associated with the requested service.  
10

1 23. The system of claim 22 wherein the service manager is part of a set-top box.

1           **24.** The system of claim 22 wherein the service manager is part of a communication  
2 gateway.

1           **25.** A system for synchronizing the delivery of video and telephone services through  
2 an HFC telephony service platform having a telephone device and a video display device, the  
3 system comprising:

4           (a) a service synchronization module coupled to both the video display device and  
5 the video display device for temporarily interrupting a delivery of a video  
6 program to said video display device when a telephone call is answered.

1           **26.** The system of claim 25 wherein the service synchronization module further  
2 resumes the delivery of the video program after the telephone call is terminated.

1           **27.** The system of claim 25 wherein the service synchronization module is part of a  
2 set-top box.

1           **28.** The system of claim 25 wherein the service synchronization module is part of a  
2 communications gateway.

1           **29.** The system of claim 25 wherein the service synchronization module interrupts the  
2 video program delivery by recording the video program into a video recording device.

1           **30.** The system of claim 29 wherein the video recording device stores the video  
2 program in a segmented buffer.

1           **31.** The system of claim 25 wherein the service synchronization module interrupts the  
2 video program delivery by pausing the video program.